



Angie, 15 years old, scared and hungry walked into the Health Department asking for a free pregnancy test. She thought that if she said she thought she was pregnant it would at least get her inside the air conditioned building for a little while. It was almost 100 degrees outside. She had gotten into an argument with her mother about her 21 year old boyfriend. Angie left her house angry and without any thought just kept walking. For the first few nights, she stayed on the couch of a friend. When the friend's mom found out, she asked her to leave. She didn't want to get involved. So, Angie started walking for hours. At 2pm she couldn't take the heat anymore and she hadn't eaten since lunch the day before. She had been to the health department with her mom in the past and knew she could go there to get out of the heat.

When she arrived, their policy is to have an underage client speak to a social worker. The social worker knew her story didn't sound right and asked her what was really going on. Angie told her she had been out of her house for 3 days; she was tired, hungry and hot. The social worker had Safe Place cards on her desk and asked Angie if she would like her to call us. Angie agreed she was scared to go home to face her mother.

Angie arrived at Alternative House in dirty clothes; she tried to keep her unwashed hair under a scarf. She was given food before her intake was started. She almost licked the plate clean. After eating, washing up and meeting with a counselor, she wanted to talk to her mom. The counselor had mom come in and they set up future appointments to help with the conflict between them and to discuss how Angie could make better choices in the future when arguing with her mother.



For more information about the Crisis Center's Safe Place program, visit www.crisiscenterysb.org/safeplace